Concessions to SSIs

†4652. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to give more concessions to small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when Government are going to implement the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Promotion of Small Scale Industries (SSIs) has been one of the conscious policies of the Government. Concessions to SSI units are already admissible under the General SSI Excise Exemption scheme and under Section 80-1B of the Income Tax Act. Besides, incentives are also available to SSI units under the Industrial Policy of various State Governments. In order to further enhance their competitiveness both domestically and globally, Government have announced a Comprehensive Policy Package for SSIs on 30th August, 2000 which provides for easier access to credit, marketing support, availability of collateral free composite loan upto Rs. 25 lakhs, capital subsidy for technological upgradation and improved infrastructure.

Protection of interests of SSI Sector

4653. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that small scale industries sector has been facing very tough competition from multi national companies;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to protect their interests; and

(c) the details of the incentives given or proposed to be given to this sector to ensure their survival?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) While liberalisation and globalisation have exposed the small scale sector to greater competition, promoting and safeguarding the interest of Small Scale Industries (SSI) has been one of the conscious policies of the Government. Government have been constantly monitoring the impact of the removal of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) on the economy including on the SSI Sector and an Inter-Ministerial Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Commerce Secretary to continuously assess the impact of removal of quantitative restrictions and to suggest suitable corrective measures. In addition, a comprehensive Policy Package has been announced on 30th August, 2000 to strengthen the small industries sector and enhance its competitiveness both domestically and globally which *inter-alia* includes easier access to credit, marketing support, availability of collateral free composite loan upto Rs. 25 lakhs, capital subsidy for technological upgradation and improved infrastructure.

Workshop on Ozone Depleting Substance

4654. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Service Institute Organised one day awareness workshop on 'ozone depleting substances' at Balangar, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh in March, 2002;

(b) if so, what have been recommendations of the workshop; and

(c) the steps being taken to bring about awareness of depleting ozone substances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.